

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 30 (Cancelled)

Claim 31 (Withdrawn): A process for preventing or treating a neurointoxication in a human patient, the process comprising administering to the patient via inhalation a medicament in which all or a part of the medicament comprises a gaseous mixture containing xenon gas and nitrous oxide gas, the volume proportion of xenon being between 5% and 45% and the volume proportion of nitrous oxide being between 10% and 50%.

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 31, wherein the neurointoxication results from a cerebral excess of one or more neurotransmitters.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 31, wherein the gaseous mixture containing xenon and nitrous oxide acts on at least one cerebral receptor so as to reduce the release and/or the effects of dopamine, glutamate, serotonin, taurine, GABA, noradrenalin and/or any other neurotransmitter.

Claim 34 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 31, wherein the remainder of the gaseous mixture is oxygen.

Claim 35 (Withdrawn): The process of 31, wherein the volume proportion of xenon is between 20% and 40% and the volume proportion of nitrous oxide is between 10% and 40%.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 31, wherein the volume proportion of xenon is between 20% and 32% and the volume proportion of nitrous oxide is between 20% and 40%.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 36, wherein the volume proportions of xenon and nitrous oxide are each about 30%.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 31, wherein the volume proportion of xenon is between 10% and 20% and the volume proportion of nitrous oxide is between 40% and 50%.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn) The process of claim 38, wherein the volume proportion of xenon is about 16% and the volume proportion of nitrous oxide is about 50%.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 31, wherein the medicament also contains oxygen, an oxygen/nitrogen mixture or air, and the gaseous mixture preferably consists of xenon and nitrous oxide, the remainder being oxygen.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 31, wherein the medicament is ready-to-use.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 31, wherein the neurointoxication is of the type giving rise to a state of addiction.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): A gaseous inhalable medicament for the prevention or treatment of ~~drug~~-addiction to amphetamines, cocaine, tobacco, alcohol, cannabis or other dependency-generating substances, wherein the medicament consists of a mixture of ~~comprises~~ from 20% to 32% by volume of xenon and from 20% to 40% by volume of nitrous oxide, with the remainder of the mixture being selected from the group consisting of oxygen, an oxygen/nitrogen mixture or air.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 43, wherein the remainder of the mixture comprises further comprising oxygen.

Claim 45 (Cancelled): ~~The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 44, wherein the medicament consists of from 20% to 32% by volume of xenon and from 20% to 40% of nitrous oxide, with the remainder being oxygen.~~

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 43, wherein the volume proportions of xenon and of nitrous oxide are each about 30%.

Claim 47 (Currently Amended): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 55, wherein the medicament consists of from 10% to 20% by volume of xenon and from 45% to 50% of nitrous oxide, the remainder of the mixture being oxygen.

Claim 48 (Currently Amended): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 47, wherein the addiction being treated is addiction to amphetamines ~~and derivatives thereof, cocaine, tobacco, alcohol, cannabis or other dependency generating substances.~~

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 47, wherein the volume proportion of xenon is about 16% and the volume proportion of nitrous oxide is about 50%.

Claim 50 (Withdrawn): A process for preventing or treating addiction comprising administering to the patient via inhalation a medicament in which all or a part of the medicament comprises a gaseous mixture containing xenon gas and nitrous oxide gas, the volume proportion of xenon being between 5% and 45% and the volume proportion of nitrous oxide being between 10% and 50%.

Claim 51 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 50 wherein the addiction being treated is drug addiction.

Claim 52 (Withdrawn): The process of claim 50 wherein the addiction being treated is addiction to amphetamines and derivatives thereof, cocaine, tobacco, alcohol, cannabis or other dependency-generating substances.

Claim 53 (Withdrawn): A process for the manufacture of all or part of an inhalable medicament for preventing or treating a neurointoxication in a human patient, the process comprising preparing a gaseous mixture that contains xenon gas and nitrous oxide gas with the volume proportion of xenon being between 5% and 45% and the volume proportion of nitrous oxide being between 10% and 50%.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 46, wherein the remainder of the mixture comprises further comprising oxygen.

Claim 55 (Currently Amended): A gaseous inhalable medicament for the prevention or treatment of ~~drug-addiction to~~ amphetamines, cocaine, tobacco, alcohol, cannabis or other dependency-generating substances, wherein the medicament ~~consists of~~ comprises from 10% to 20% by volume of xenon, ~~and~~ from 45% to 50% of nitrous oxide and the remainder being selected from the group consisting of oxygen, an oxygen/nitrogen mixture and air.

Claim 56 (Currently Amended): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 43, wherein the addiction being treated is addiction to amphetamines ~~and derivatives thereof, cocaine, tobacco, alcohol, cannabis or other dependency-generating substances.~~

Claim 57 (New): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 55, wherein the addiction being treated is addiction to amphetamines.

Claim 58 (New): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 55, wherein the remainder of the mixture comprises oxygen.

Claim 59 (New): The gaseous inhalable medicament of claim 55, wherein the remainder of the mixture comprises an oxygen/nitrogen mixture or air.